

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DOHA 01423 211123Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ST-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-07 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06
OES-06 /040 W

----- 078836 /12

R 211055Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2143
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHDAD
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DOHA 1423

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, QA
SUBJ: DOHA PORT CONGESTION--SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT

REF: DOHA 0849

1. ACCORDING TO ASSISTANT PORT DIRECTOR ABDULLAH GHARAIRI
DOHA PORT DELAY NOW DOWN TO SEVENTY-FIVE TO EIGHTY DAYS. HE
ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS DUE LARGELY TO DECREASE IN NUMBER
OF SHIPS CALLING DUE TO FORMER LONGER (120 DAY) DELAY AND THAT
HE EXPECTED DELAY TO INCREASE AGAIN WHEN SHIPPERS FIND OUT ABOUT
DECREASE. ALSO TENDING TO KEEP DELAY TIME LONG IS FACT THAT ANY
DECREASE IN DELAY TIME ENCOURAGES SHIPPERS TO SEND GOODS BY
SEA RATHER THAN BY THE MORE EXPENSIVE BUT LESS TIME CONSUMING
LAND ROUTE FROM EUROPE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DOHA 01423 211123Z

2. AMOUNT OF GOODS LANDED INCREASED BY MORE THAN FOUR HUNDRED
THOUSAND TONS IN 1976 AND TOTAL THIS YEAR WILL BE SLIGHTLY OVER
ONE MILLION TONS. RATE OF UNLOADING AT END OF YEAR (DEC 20)
WAS AVERAGING THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED TONS PER DAY. THIS
FIGURE SHOULD RISE WITHIN FEW DAYS TO FOUR THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED
TONS PER DAY SINCE SECOND NEW SHALLOW DRAFT BERTH WAS DELIVERED

DEC 15 AND SHOULD BE IN USE BEFORE DEC 25.

3. TO COPE WITH INCREASED CARGO HANDLED PORT HAS GONE FROM TWELVE HOUR DAY TO FIFTEEN HOUR DAY. GHARAIRI STATED THAT PORT ADMINISTRATION

WOULD LIKE TO INCREASE HOURS FURTHER BUT THAT FINDING THE WORK FORCE FOR A THIRD SHIFT HAS THUS FAR PROVED IMPOSSIBLE. PORT EMPLOYS ABOUT FOUR HUNDRED STEVEDORES BUT ONLY HALF ARE CONTRACT WORKERS WITH REST BEING DRAWN FROM DAY LABOR MARKET. PRESENT FACILITIES COULD HANDLE FIFTY PERCENT MORE CARGO IF USED TWENTY FOUR HOURS. GHARAIRI HAD NO ANSWER TO EMBOFF'S QUESTION ABOUT WHERE WORKERS FOR NEW FACILITIES WOULD BE FOUND.

4. GHARAIRI SAID THAT UNLOADING TO BARGES HAS BEEN HELPFUL BUT THAT THIS METHOD AND LASH NOW CAUSING SOME BARGE CONGESTION IN INNER HARBOR AND BOTH METHODS HAVE COME ALMOST TO THEIR LIMITS DUE TO THIS. ABOUT FIVE HUNDRED TONS COME ASHORE BY BARGE DAILY. ALTHOUGH PROPER RO-RO FACILITIES DON'T EXIST IN DOHA METHOD IS BEING UTILIZED USING STERN RAMPS ONLY.

5. MEANWHILE TO AVOID PROBLEMS OF PORT CONGESTION SOME LARGE USERS PROPOSING MORE DIRECT ACTION. HOTEL-CONVENTION CENTER PROJECT MATERIALS SHIPS WILL MOOR AND UNLOAD AT HUGE BARGE CONNECTED BY CAUSEWAY TO CONSTRUCTION SITE. (PROJECT MANAGER EXPRESSED SOME FEAR THAT HE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO CLOSE WHAT IS IN EFFECT AN EXTRA BERTH WHEN CPROJECT COMPLETED.) PROPOSAL WHICH WON COMPETITION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF TERMINAL COMPLEX FOR NEW AIRPORT INCLUDED BARGE MOUNTED BATCHING PLANT TO WHICH CEMENT AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT COULD BE DIRECTLY OFFLOADED. PORT AUTHORITIES ACKNOWLEDGE THE UTILITY OF THIS METHOD BUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DOHA 01423 211123Z

PRIVATELY ADMIT THAT THIS WILL CAUSE SOME DIMINUTION OF THEIR CONTROL OF CARGO MOVEMENT.

6. THE ADDITION OF TWO SHALLOW DRAFT BERTHS MEZNTIONED PARA 2 ABOVE BRINGS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BERTHS AVAILABLE IN DOHA PORT TO SIX. TWO ADDITIONAL SHALLOW DRAFT BERTHS ARE SCHEDULED FOR DELIVERY IN APRIL BUT GHARAIRI SAID THAT PROJECT IS THREE MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE AND THAT THEY MAY BE DELIVERED AT END OF JANUARY. PORT OFFICIALS SEEM OPTIMISTIC THAT WITHIN SIX MONTHS PORT CONGESTION PROBLEM WILL BE THING OF PAST. IF ALL PLANS CARRY THROUGH THERE WILL BE EIGHT BERTHS IN DOHA PORT AND TEN BERTHS (WITH POSSIBLE SEVEN BERTH ADD-ON) IN UMM SAID PORT. FERTILIZER PLANT ALREADY HAS FOUR BERTHS (TWO BULK AND TWO BAG) AND STEEL PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION WILL HAVE OWN BERTHS FOR DISCHARGING RAW MATERIALS AND LOADING FINISHED STEEL.
PAGANELLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PORT CONGESTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DOHA01423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760468-0074
From: DOHA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761226/aaaaavsb.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 DOHA 849
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DOHA PORT CONGESTION--SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT
TAGS: EWWT, QA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006